

Message Text

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15

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2724

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 356

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GY, CU, PFOR

SUBJECT: GUYANA-CUBA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY AND CUBAN EMBASSY COMMEMORAT

E

BAY OF PIGS INVASION

1. THE GUYANA-CUBA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY, AN ORGANIZATION DOMINATED BY THE MOSCOW-LINE PEOPLE'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY (PPP), CELEBRATED THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAY OF PIGS INVASION ON APRIL 20. THIS WAS COMPLEMENTED BY A RECEPTION AT GEORGETOWN'S TOP HOTEL, HOSTED BY CUBAN AMBASSADOR MARTINEZ, IN OBSERVANCE OF THE ANNIVERSARY AND IN HONOR OF A TEAM OF CUBAN CONSTRUCTION EXPERTS WHICH HAS COMPLETED ITS ONE-WEEK VISIT HERE.

2. ACCORDING TO A LOCAL PRESS REPORT, MARTINEZ, COMMENTING ON RECENT REMARKS BY PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER REGARDING CUBAN MILITARY INTERVENTION ABROAD, SAID "WE WANT TO LET IT BE KNOWN THAT WE PAY NO ATTENTION TO SUCH STATEMENTS". IN REACTION TO THE BRANDING OF CUBAN PRIME MINISTER CASTRO AS AN "INTERNATIONAL OUTLAW" MARTINEZ "CHARGED THAT FORD IS PRESIDENT OF THE "MOST CRIMINAL IMPERIALISM OF THE CENTURY" (SIC). WHEN ASKED ABOUT HIS

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COUNTRY'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE U.S. NAVAL BASE AT GUANTANAMO,

CUBA, MARTINEZ RESPONDED, " "WE ARE LEAVING THEM THERE TO BECOME TIRED. THE ONESWHO ARE REALLY WORRED ARE THE AMERICANS. THE ONLY REGRET FOR US IS THAT IT A GOOD HARBOR. FROM THE MILITARY POINT OF VIEW IT IS NO GOOD FOR THEM EITHER. FROM THE MINUTE THEY ATTACK, THE MINUTE BEFORE THE BASE WILL HAVE ALREADY DISAPPEARED".

3. THE RECEPTION, WHOSE GUESTS INCLUDED PM BURNHAM, FONMIN WILLS AND PPP LEADER CHEDDI JAGAN, RECEIVED ONLY CURSORY TREATMENT IN THE GOVT-RUN CHRONICLE, WITH MORE EXTENSIVE, ANTI-U.S. COMMENTS APPEARING IN THE PPP-OWNED MIRROR.
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